

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (canceled)

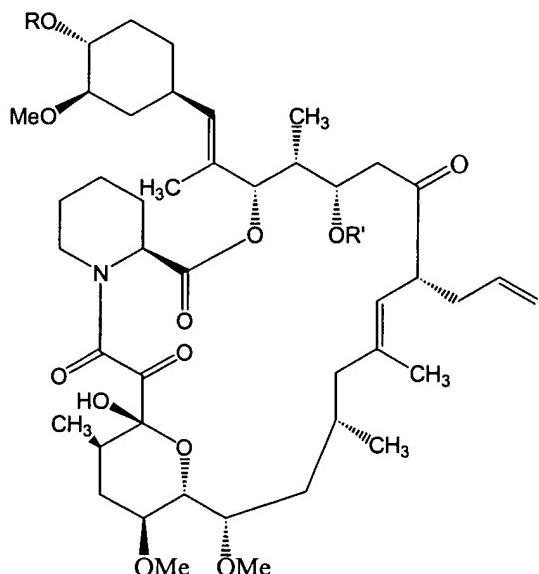
2. (canceled)

3. (canceled)

4. (canceled)

5. (canceled)

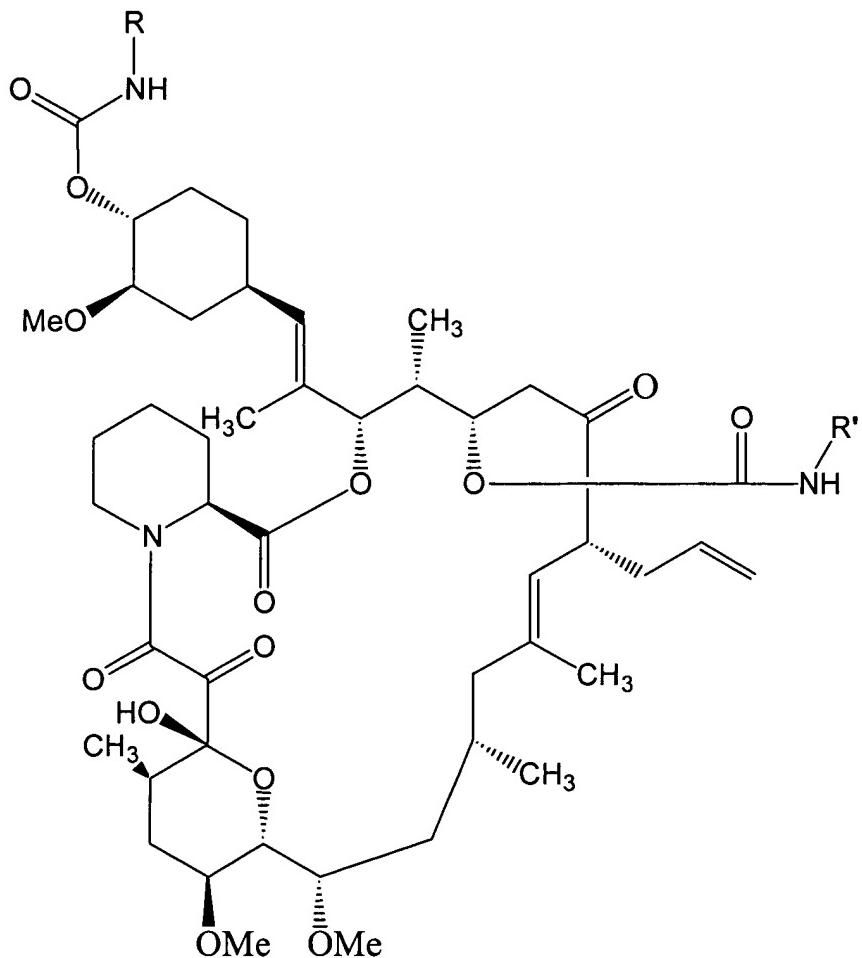
6. (Currently amended) An assay releasing reagent for macrophilins comprising (a) an effective amount of the compound having the formula:



wherein R is contains an alkyl, aryl, allyl, carbonyl, carboxylate, amide, ester, phosphonate, phosphate, sulfonate, sulfate, amidine, or carbamate functional group; and R" is contains an alkyl, aryl, allyl, carbonyl, carboxylate, amide, ester, phosphonate, phosphate, sulfonate, sulfate, amidine, or carbamate functional group or H; and

(b) a buffer solution.

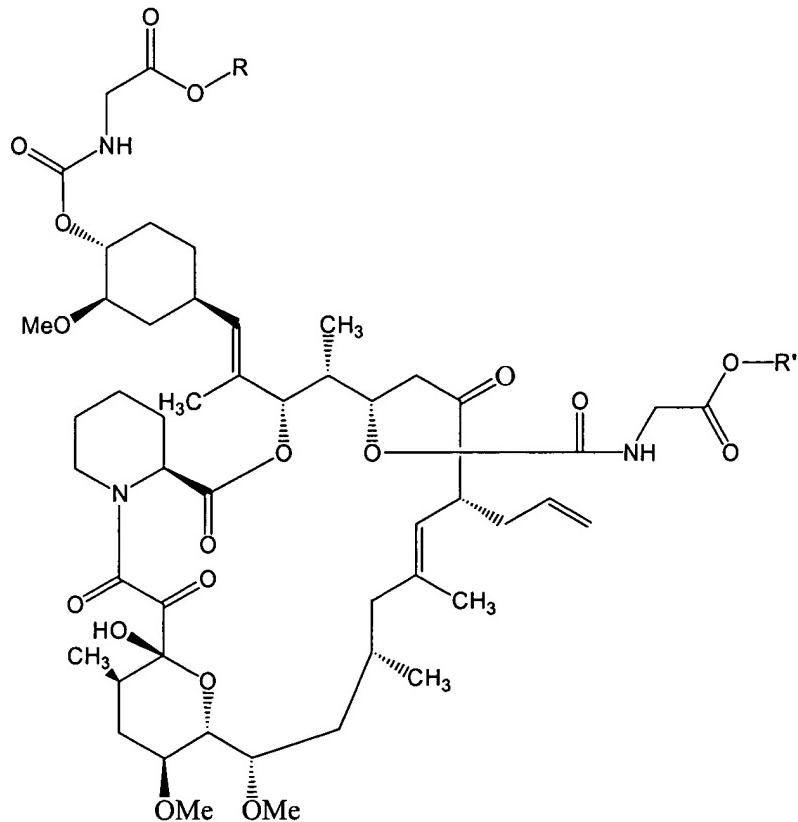
7. (Currently amended) A method of determining the presence of a macrophilin-binding pharmaceutical composition in a sample comprising: adding to the sample a binding competitor of the formula:



wherein R is alkyl, aryl, allyl, each having less than 25 carbons or H, and
R' is alkyl, aryl, allyl, each having less than 25 carbons or H of claim 1 to the sample; adding a receptor that binds to the pharmaceutical but not significantly to the binding competitor; detecting the receptor-pharmaceutical composition and determining the amount of the pharmaceutical.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein the pharmaceutical is rapamycin (sirolimus), everolimus or tacrolimus (FK506).

9. (Currently amended) A method of determining the presence of a macrophilin-binding pharmaceutical composition in a sample comprising: adding to the sample a binding competitor of the formula:



wherein R is alkyl, aryl, allyl, each having less than 25 carbons or H, and
R' is alkyl, aryl, allyl, each having less than 25 carbons or H of claim 3 to the sample; adding a receptor that binds to the pharmaceutical but not significantly to the binding competitor; detecting the receptor-pharmaceutical composition and determining the amount of the pharmaceutical.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein the pharmaceutical is rapamycin (sirolimus), everolimus or tacrolimus (FK506).

11. (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein R or R' is ethyl.

12. (Currently amended) A method of determining the presence of a macrophilin-binding pharmaceutical composition in a sample comprising: adding a binding competitor of the formula of claim 6 to the sample; adding a receptor that binds to the pharmaceutical but not significantly to the binding competitor; detecting the receptor-pharmaceutical composition and determining the amount of the pharmaceutical.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein the pharmaceutical is rapamycin, (sirolimus), everolimus or tacrolimus (FK506).

14. (New) The method of claim 8 wherein R or R' is ethyl.